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The Amboy News

The Depot Museum

Amboy, Illinois

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\$1.00

Deputies, suspect shot in Dixon

DIXON – In a report made by Ogle County Sheriff Brain E. VanVickle, three members of the Ogle County Emergency Response Team (ERT) were shot as well as suspect, Jonathon G. Gounaris, in a crossfire Wednesday, June 12.

At 8:39 a.m., the Ogle County Sheriff's Office received a phone call from the homeowner of 402 Wild Rice Ln. in Dixon. The caller advised her adult son was having suicidal and homicidal thoughts. Deputies arrived on the scene at approximately 9:05 a.m.

Family members told deputies Gounaris was armed with multiple firearms. The ERT was activated and arrived at approximately 10:20 a.m. when negotiators began calling the suspect's phone. More than 50 call attempts were made during the next 1 1/2-plus hours.

At 11:51 a.m., the ERT proceeded to the residence and was met with gunfire from inside the residence as they breached the front door.

The ERT shot the suspect, while one ERT member was struck in the armor, one suffered a gunshot wound to the upper arm, and one was shot in the face.

Gounaris was found inside the front door of the house with multiple firearms, a fixed-blade knife, pepper spray, and ballistic armor. He was taken to a local hospital and underwent surgery.

Two members of Ogle County ERT were transported to KSB Hospital in Dixon for treatment and were released. The third ERT member was air flighted to OSF St. Anthony's Hospital in Rockford for immediate surgery.

The Illinois State Police were requested to investigate the officer-involved shooting and are actively conducting the investigation. Any charges will be filed at the conclusion of the investigation and in consultation with the Ogle County State Attorney's Office.

VanVickle personally thanked all law enforcement for their response to the incident and expressed his sincere gratitude to multiple fire agencies, hospital staff, physicians, flight crews, and the general public for their overwhelming support during a very difficult time at the Ogle County Sheriff's Office.

2024 Amboy Summer Concerts

6-8 p.m. at the Amboy Depot Museum Parking Lot Stage

- June 22 – Eileen Quest, Remembering Patsy Cline
- June 29 – Rusty & Friends (variety)
- July 6 – Amboy City 4th of July Festivities
- July 13 – News Shoe, Jeff Kagay (classic rock)
- July 20 – To be announced

Amboy Fire has busiest May...ever

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

AMBOY – Amboy Fire Chief Jeff Bryant Sr. is always a busy man.

But the last month or so has been busier than usual as the Amboy Fire Protection District has been on more calls than usual while still hosting and planning its community events.

"May was the busiest month in the history of the Amboy Fire Protection District. We had 68 calls. We're on a record pace for calls in a year."

The call breakdown for May was 55 emergency medical service calls, six unintentional fire alarm, dispatched and cancelled enroute, mutual aid standby calls, three hazard calls for a spill, leak, or power line down, two motor vehicle accident with injury calls, one woodland fire call, and one false call.

On Saturday, June 22, 19 cadets are graduating from EMT/EMR classes. The 19 are from different stations including Amboy, Ashton, Compton, Lee, and Woodhaven Public Safety.

"That's a big class. There are usually 10. We're still looking for fire fighters. If anyone would like to join, people can email me at cheif@amboyfire.com, or they can show up on a Wednesday night at



the fire station," Chief Bryant Sr. said. "There is paid training, and they'd get paid for going on calls. It's kind of a part-time job, but the biggest thing is you're benefiting your community. If it's not you, who? Departments are struggling to staff. We were struggling, but now we're in a little better position.

"Reminder, replace your old smoke detectors with new smoke detectors. We have them available at the Amboy fire station. Call 815-857-2325 to schedule a pickup."

The AFPD has a few events coming up on the calendar starting with

the Amboy Fourth of July celebrations on Saturday, July 6.

"Every year, the Amboy Fire Protection District has teamed up with the City of Amboy. The city pays for the fireworks along with some other sponsors including the Depot Days Car Show," Bryant Sr. said. "Along with that, we try to do things similar to a festival where families, regardless of economic status, can come out and have a great day celebrating the most important day we should celebrate, Independence Day."

See Amboy Fire page A2

Busy summer for Village of Sublette

By **BRANDON LaCHANCE**
Amboy News Editor

SUBLETTE – The date reminder section on the Village of Sublette Board agenda sheet for the June 10 meeting at the Ellice Dinges Center didn't disappoint if you're looking for something to do during the summer.

Maybe not something to do, but an important reminder, Friday is Sublette's normal garbage pick-up day, but for the first week in July it will be picked up on Saturday, July 6 instead of Friday, July 5 because of Fourth of July.

The fun things to do include Tuesday, June 25's Farmer's Market, Monday July 8 is the next board meeting, Saturday, July 13 is Music on Main, the Farmer's Market returns Tuesday, July 30, and end

of summer/beginning of fall will have Hops & Harmony and Pullin' in the Park on September 7-8.

Also taking place of September 7-8 is a list of activities including bounce houses, petting zoo, softball tournament, food trucks, craft vendor fair, a parade at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 7, face painting, and corn box in celebration of Sublette turning 170.

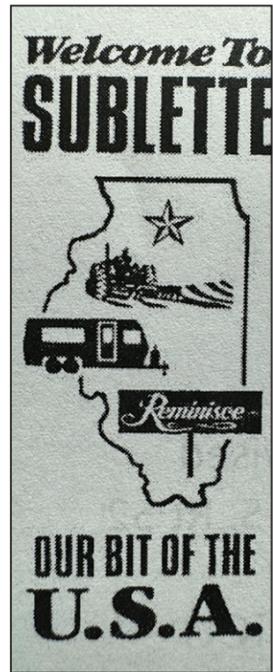
"It says something about the people of Sublette for the village to be 170 years old," said the Village of Sublette Board President John Stenzel. "Sublette is small but we're able to keep the village together because there are a lot of great people here who care and are committed to Sublette and its residents.

"We couldn't do a lot of the things we do if it wasn't for the people who live here who help volunteer and get things done."

In Stenzel's president's report, he discussed the board donating funds toward a memorial tree in memory of Larry Leffelman.

Leffelman, passed away at 85 on Tuesday, May 14. He was a veteran of the army National Guard and a member of the Amboy American Legion for 50 years. He was also a member of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Sublette.

"Larry and I were on the Sublette board for 11 years together. I was a trustee when he was the president," Stenzel said. "Larry was a great guy who gave all he had into



Sublette. He was a part of everything. I'm glad we can donate to a tree in his honor."

A Tribute to the fallen of World War I

Editor's note: The Amboy News will be publishing a series of articles on Lee County veterans who served during World War I. These heroes are part of Amboy's history and it is our honor to publish these articles so you can learn about their service to our country. This article was researched by Jack Mead and Tom Dempsey, and written by Dempsey.



PVT. Earl Ewart Emery

333rd Heavy Field Artillery, 86th Division

The majority of American soldiers who died in service during World War I died of non-combat causes, in most cases due to the influenza pandemic of 1918. Almost as lethal and fairly common in the muddy non-hygienic trenches was lung disease caused by tuberculosis. Soldiers afflicted with TB were removed from combat and isolated in base hospital units to prevent

further spread. However, many young men developed secondary TB, which resulted in slower progressing illness over time, often resulting in death months later.

Born to Lewellyn and Margaret Emery in 1895, Earl Emery spent his childhood years in Amboy. After completing school, he was associated with the County Treasurer's office and employed as a bank clerk at the First National Bank in Amboy. On June 24, 1918, Earl was inducted into the



army at Camp Grant in Rockford, eventually assigned to the 333rd Heavy Field Artillery Regiment, 86th Division.

On Sept. 17, Pvt. Emery left Hoboken, New Jersey for France with the 333rd. Arriving during the final weeks of the war, the regiment did not see action in France, and was returned stateside by February, 1919 and was decommissioned at Camp Grant. Earl returned to his job at the First National Bank, but became ill on March 22nd

due to the persistence of tuberculosis which he had contracted during his service overseas.

After suffering his illness for weeks, Earl Emery died at the Amboy Hospital on May 14, 1919. He was buried in the family plot at Prairie Repose Cemetery where his gravestone is a humble reminder of his love and dedication to the cause of freedom everywhere.

NOTE: If you know of other Lee County Soldiers who died in service during World War I, we

urge you to share that information to demps60@gmail.com so that those soldiers may be honored and remembered.

Sources:
"War History of Lee County Illinois 1917-1919". Dixon American Legion Post 12, 1919.

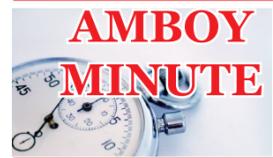
Dixon Evening Telegraph, May 16, 1919

National Archives

Holmes, Frederick, M.D., "Tuberculosis in the First World War".

University of Kansas School of Medicine, 2013.

**RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
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RECYCLE!**



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Inserts

Snyders



LOCAL NEWS



A.C.O. donates to Pankhurst Library
Carole Benson, left, hands Pankhurst Memorial Library Emily Goff a check written for \$250 in donation from the Amboy Civic Organization. The A.C.O. donates annually to assist the library. Brandon LaChance/Amboy News

Woodlawn proudly presents “Matilda the Musical Jr.”

STERLING – Woodlawn Arts Academy presents its summer musical theater production, Roald Dahl’s “Matilda the Musical Jr.” The performances will be at 7 p.m. Friday, June 28 and Saturday, June 29, and 2 p.m. Sunday, June 30 at Centennial Auditorium at Sterling High School.

Tickets are \$8 each and are scheduled to go on sale on June 17 at centennialauditorium.org. A processing fee will be applied to online ticket purchases. Tickets also will be available at the door.

“Matilda The Musical Jr.” features a diverse group of performers from Rock Falls, Sterling, Dixon and Polo. A total of 49 students will be performing under the direction of Faith Morrison, music director

Mardi Huffstutler, and assistant directors Jordann Langner and Grace Wadsworth.

Woodlawn Arts Academy is an agency of United Way of Whiteside and Lee counties, and financial assistance is available to those who qualify. Details on the Academy’s programming and financial assistance applications are available in the Academy office or on the website. The Academy’s programs are partially funded by grants from the Illinois Arts Council Agency and the Chicago Community Trust.

From MTI Shows: Rebellion is nigh in this gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination! This story of a girl who dreams of a better life and the children she inspires will have

audiences rooting for the “revolting children” who are out to teach the grown-ups a lesson.

Matilda has astonishing wit, intelligence and special powers! She’s unloved by her cruel parents but impresses her schoolteacher, the highly loveable Miss Honey. Matilda’s school life isn’t completely smooth sailing, however—the school’s mean headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, hates children and just loves thinking up new punishments for those who don’t abide by her rules. But Matilda has courage and cleverness in equal amounts and could be the school pupils’ saving grace!

Children and adults alike will be thrilled and delighted by the story of the special little girl with an extraordinary imagination.

Bird tests positive for West Nile Virus near Sterling in May

STERLING – A deceased bird collected on May 31, 2024 near Sterling, IL has tested positive for the West Nile virus according to Jennifer Kolb, Director of Environmental Health for the Whiteside County Health Department. Mosquitoes become infected with West Nile virus by feeding on infected birds and can then spread West Nile virus to humans and other animals through their bite.

Culex mosquitoes are the primary vector responsible for spreading West Nile virus to humans. These mosquitoes are typically found near stagnant or standing water including barrels, horse troughs, ornamental ponds, unmaintained swimming pools, puddles, creeks, ditches, and marshy areas and are most likely to bite during dawn and dusk.

Typically August and September is when WNV activity is at its highest and the threat of West Nile exposure can remain until the first frost. As

we begin to approach peak season for mosquito borne disease, it is important for the public to take some simple precautions including practicing the three “R’s” – reduce, repel, and report.

- Reduce Exposure**
- Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are most active, especially between dusk and dawn.
 - Make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens and repair or replace any with tears or openings
 - Try to keep doors and windows shut, especially at night.
 - Eliminate all sources of standing water where mosquitoes can breed, including flowerpots, wading pools, old tires, clogged rain gutters, old boats and any other receptacles and change the water in bird baths weekly.
- Repel**
- Wear shoes and socks, long pants and long

- sleeved shirts when outdoors.
- Apply insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus or IR 3535, according to label instructions when outdoors. Consult a physician before using repellents on infants.
- Report**
- Report dead birds to the Whiteside County Health Department.
 - If your community has an organized mosquito control program, contact your municipal government about areas of stagnant water in roadside ditches, flooded yards, and similar locations that may produce mosquitoes.
- Additional information about West Nile virus can be found by visiting <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/west-nile-virus> or www.cdc.gov/westnile/

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Amboy Fire continued from page A1

The Amboy Fourth of July festivities are at no cost and will include bounce houses, foam party, face painting, the band Back Country Roads, which played at the fire station during last year’s holiday, and more.

If there is inclement weather, all events/happenings will happen at the fire house. Otherwise, they are scheduled to take place on SE Avenue near the Amboy Depot Museum.

From 7-11 a.m. Saturday, July 13, the Amboy fire station, located at 25 NE Avenue, will be serving sausage, pancakes, eggs, and biscuits and gravy.

There will be a free-will donation to help cover costs related to training.

“We like to open our doors and let the community in. The breakfast isn’t connected to a holiday or a celebration, it’s just a gathering with good food,” Bryant Sr. said. “We like to show the community what we’ve been doing. We’ve done a lot of work to the fire station and to our equipment. The community can be proud of what the Firemen’s Association, the Amboy Fire Protection District, and grant funding has done to help make the fire department as prepared as it is.”

While all of this is going on, the Amboy Fire Protection District is going through an expansion.

After town meetings in both Harmon and Amboy in late 2023, the two fire departments are joining together. “We’re still moving along with

the consolidation of the Amboy and Harmon Fire Departments. It was official in January,” Chief Bryant Sr. said. “So far, we’ve ran three EMS calls in the Harmon rural response area. We’re going to be on the November ballot to have them form a part of our district.

“Right now, we’re covering it, but they’ll become part of our district in November after a referendum. I appreciate everyone’s support to make it happen to help improve the quality of life of citizens in Amboy and the Harmon rural area.”

The union will add 60 square miles to the Amboy Fire Protection District, which will bring its total coverage area to 180 square miles. The ambulance response area is now 230 square miles.

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LOCAL NEWS

TEEN TURF

Thank You's

We are always grateful to those that help us in our endeavor to help the community: Mark & Tammy Henkel for the snacks; Martha Henley for the homemade chocolate chip cookies; Katey Dickinson for the clothes and candy; Bill & Connie Bontz for the lamp and end table; Tammy, Scott, & Brooklyn for the clothes and water; Shirley Appleman for the air conditioners; Linda Thomas for the swimming goggles; Jack Frost for the snacks; Andy & Gina McCoy for the water; Shari Ciessau for the new basketball and Dave & Deb Shaw for purchasing a Strawberry Rhubarb Pie and donating it back.

Summer Programs

"Places you go" will be our theme for 6 weeks. Last week the kids went underwater and this week they will be visiting the farm. The camp will end July 17th for pre-k to 4th grade. Pre-K and K will be on Mondays, 1st and 2nd are on Tuesdays, and 3rd and 4th will be on Wednesdays. Applications are in our 24/7 hallway.

Kids going into 5th grade, 6th, 7th, 8th, and High school began their summer program on Monday, June 3rd. They go from 9a.m.-4 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays and go from 9a.m.-9p.m. on Wednesdays (They go to Woodhaven for a swim treat on Wednesdays) We are accepting applications for the all-day community program, and it goes to July 26th. Applications are in the Teen Turf Hallway. If you have any questions, please call Teen Turf building at 815-857-4800. Let's have a great summer!

The Kitchen Table

Please come support two amazing organizations. A few of the Teen Turf kids will be serving tomorrow, Thursday, July 20th from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. It is a pay what you can restaurant and they survive solely on volunteers. They are serving porkchops, mac & cheese, and pees. The address is: 7034 South Klondike in Rochelle, IL. We hope to see you there!

Pie Sale

Thank you to Katey Dickinson for offering to make strawberry rhubarb and apple pies for our Father's Day pie fundraiser. We sold out in three days. Thank you to everyone who purchased one or more. The next pie fundraiser will be during the Lee County 4H Fair. If you would like to donate a fruit pie, please contact Pam or Brian at 815-857-4800.

Mini Food Pantry

We are having a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 20th, if you would like to join us. We are so grateful to have a mini food bank set up at Teen Turf. There are rules if you would like to donate to it. These are inside the fridge. Anyone and everyone is free to take from it. They just filmed a commercial about it.

Needs

Pop Tarts, Toilet Paper, and Hershey bar chocolate to make smores.

Final Note

Help us recognize that everyone carries their burdens, and it is not for us to judge. Instead, let us offer a listening ear, a helping hand, and a compassionate heart. We thank you, God, for filling us with empathy and grace. Amen

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

AMBOY – You are invited to join fellow senior citizens for a free exercise program at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 960 US Highway 52, Amboy. Sessions are held Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Chairs are provided for an approximate 30-minute workout. For more information, call Chris at 815-857-3963.

DIXON – 4-H Junior Gardener teaches children about the wonderful world of gardening through hands-on investigation of growing their own vegetables and flowers and learning to use the harvest. The 4-H Junior Gardener SPIN Club is meeting from 4-5:30 p.m. every Tuesday from May 21-July 30 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Dixon. The club is for youth ages 8-18 and the cost is \$30 for non-4-H members and \$10 for 4-H members. For more information contact the Lee County Extension Office at 815-857-3525. Register online at go.illinois.edu/leeco.jg.

STERLING – The Sterling Public Library is hosting a Youth Sewing Workshop from 1-3 p.m. on every Month through June (3, 10, 17, and 24). The workshop allows you to explore the sewing world and bring your imagination to life. All sewing machines and basic supplies will be provided registration fee, \$20 for 4-H members, \$30 for non-4-H members. Secure your spot by registering on Z Suites at go.illinois.edu/SewingSterling. Non-4-Hers, please contact the office to register at 815-632-3611.

AMBOY – The Amboy Lions Club May meeting will be at 6 p.m. Monday, June 24 at the Amboy Community Center, located at 280 W. Wasson Rd. The Lions Club meetings take place the second and fourth Monday of every month.

AMBOY – Join Lee County 4-H for an exciting Cloverbud workshop where children, ages 5-7, can immerse themselves in various fun, hands-on activities, crafts, and games designed to spark creativity and curiosity. This is a fantastic opportunity for young kids to learn, play, and make new friends in a supportive and engaging environment. Don't miss out on this fantastic event tailored specifically for our youngest youth. Spaces are limited, so be sure to register by June 24 at go.illinois.edu/LeeCloverbud. For more information, contact Lee County Extension Office at 815-857-3525.

AMBOY – The City of Amboy committee meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, July 1 at the Community Center, 280 W. Wasson Rd.

AMBOY – The Amboy Civic Organization currently meets the first Tuesday evening of each month at 4:30 p.m. at Maria's Pizza in Amboy, 110 E. Main Street. Please note, the A.C.O no longer gathers at 4 p.m. but instead will gather at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 2. Sharing dinner will provide a great opportunity for socializing and sharing community news.

AMBOY – Calling all young food enthusiasts. Embark on a delicious journey with our Kid-Cuterie program, brought to you by Illinois Extension. Join us from 10-11 a.m. Friday, July 12 at the Lee County Extension Office in Amboy. Registration fee is \$20, which covers the board, consumables, and supplies. Secure your spot by July 5 at go.illinois.edu/kidcuterielee.

SUBLETTE – The next Village of Sublette meeting is at 7 p.m. Monday, July 8 at the Ellice Dinges Center at 202 S. West Street in Sublette.

DIXON – The Wits Fitness month workshop is taking place from 1-3 p.m. Monday, July 8 at the KSB Town Square Center in Dixon. Experience a

monthly journey with Kara Schweitzer, an educator from University of Illinois Extension, as she leads participants through interactive activities crafted to stimulate the brain and enhance cognitive function and memory. We will be offering this program at the Edward Murphy Room at KSB Town Square, 101 W. Saxon St. New participants are welcome to join at any time.

EAST GROVE – East Grove Township is holding its next meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 9 at the East Grove Township Hall.

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Tuesday - Sausage gravy w/whole grain biscuit, hash brown potatoes, two sausage patties, orange juice
Wednesday - Closed
Thursday - (A) Beefaroni, California blend vegetables, corn muffin, apricots; (B) Turkey/vegetable
Friday - Southwest salad w/black beans, corn, cheese, chicken, tomato, onion, whole grain dinner roll, fruit juice

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Amboy Fire Department is hosting a breakfast from 7-11 a.m. Saturday, July 13

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At the Amboy Fire Station, 25 NE Avenue, Amboy

ATTENTION! EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024!

The Amboy News Mailing Address is changing.

The New Mailing Address is:

Phone: 815-539-9696 Fax: 815-857-2311

YAY!!

We've decided to keep the Drop Box. It will be checked once a week for sure maybe more often. You can still email your information to: jgriffith@mendotareporter.com or blachance@mendotareporter.com. You may also fax or mail the information to: The Amboy News PO Box 300 Mendota, IL 61342. If you have any questions please call the office at 815-539-9696.

Established In 1854

The Amboy News
The Daily Messenger

Serving the Heart of Lee County Since 1854

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All Editorial Deadline: noon Friday

LOCAL NEWS

Amboy zoning hearing scheduled for July 11

AMBOY – A hearing will be held on Thursday, July 11, 2024 for a variance request. The variance request is for a pipeline variance for new equipment install. The following parcels are within the City of Amboy jurisdictional limits:

- PIN: 12-14-12-400-005;
- PIN: 12-14-12-400-990;
- PIN: 12-14-12-400-004;
- PIN: 12-14-12-200-009;
- PIN: 12-14-12-200-008;
- PIN: 12-14-01-400-011.

The hearing will be held at the Amboy Community Building located at 280 W. Wasson Rd at 5:00 p.m.

Amateur Radio “Field Day” will focus on skill, service, and science

EARLVILLE – Members of The American Legion Post 33 Amateur Radio Club will be participating in the national amateur radio Field Day exercise June 22 – 23 at LaSalle County’s Shabbona Park, located at 4165 E. 16th Road, Earlville.

The Amateur Radio Exams begin at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 22 and Field Day is from 1 p.m. Saturday, June 22 to 1 p.m. Sunday, June 23.

Field Day is a showcase for how amateur radio works reliably under any conditions from almost any location to create an

independent communications network. “Ham radio functions completely independent of the Internet or cell phone infrastructure, can interface with laptops or smartphones, and can be set up almost anywhere in minutes. That’s the beauty of amateur radio during a communications outage,” says Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, spokesperson for ARRL The national association for Amateur Radio®, (www.arrl.org), which represents amateur (or “ham”) radio operators across the country. “In today’s electronic

do-it-yourself (DIY) environment, ham radio remains one of the best ways for people to learn about electronics, physics, meteorology, and numerous other scientific disciplines, and is a huge asset to any community during disasters or emergencies if the standard communication infrastructure goes down,” Inderbitzen adds. Anyone may become a licensed amateur radio operator. There are more than 750,000 licensed hams in the United States, as young as 9 and as old as 100. And with clubs such as The American

Legion Post 33 Amateur Radio Club, it’s easy for anybody to get involved right here in LaSalle County. For more information about Field Day or amateur radio, contact Joe Tokarz kb9ezz@yahoo.com or visit www.arrl.org/what-is-ham-radio.

The American Legion Post 33 Amateur Radio Club invites you and your scouts to learn more about Amateur Radio. We will have a dedicated Amateur Radio Station set up for those wanting to give ham radio a try and for those working on the Radio Merit Badge (see below).

Food Truck Monday

AMBOY – The popular monthly event where different food vending trucks come to the Amboy Deput Museum parking lot is returning from 4-8 p.m. Monday, July 22.

The event organized by Kirstyn Carter began last year and has picked up this spring and will continue throughout the summer and early fall.

Celebrate Fourth of July at Brush & Bloom

DIXON – Unleash your creativity and watch the community’s creativity blossom!

Join Discover Dixon for a beautiful morning of painting, fun, and making memories together and share your creative vision on a sidewalk square from 9 a.m.-noon Thursday, July 4 at the Old Lee County Courthouse.

Register by June 26

for \$15. Price will be \$25 after June 26 until the event. Limited spots are available.

This Discover Dixon event is sponsored by Dixon Autobody Clinic and KSB Hospital

Please note: No outside paint is allowed. Paint supplies are provided, and no supplies will be handed out after 11 a.m.

Please visit discoverdixon.com and follow Discover Dixon on Facebook and Instagram for the latest information on Dixon events.

Join Discover Dixon annual golf outing July 19

DIXON – Discover Dixon is heading back to the greens Friday, July 19 for the annual Discover Dixon Golf Outing.

A few spots remain for teams to join the fun at Timber Creek Golf Course. Foursomes are \$280 and individuals are \$80.

Hole sponsorships are \$250 and more sponsorships are still available.

Now’s the time to sign up Call 815-284-3361 or email amber.schmidt@dixonnow.com for more information!



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Summer Sounds

DIXON – Enjoy the Summer Sounds of the Dixon Municipal Band at 7:30 p.m. Thursday June 20 at the Page Park Band Shell in Dixon.

The concert will begin with The Directorate March, Overture Energico, and Highlights from Fiddler On The Roof. The program will include Gary Owen March, English Country Settings, Alla Baracco, and Li'l Darlin'. The concert will conclude with Amadeus! and Bandology.

There will be door prizes and GG's Ice Cream will be scooping up their delicious treats.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Guide To Local Houses of Worship

St. Patrick Church
 Fr. John Gow
 32 N Jones, Amboy
 815-857-2315 • www.stpatrickamboy.org
 Masses: Monday - Thursday Daily Mass 8 am
 Saturday 4 pm • Sunday 7 am & 10:30 am
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
 Friday, 4-6 pm with Confessions and
 Mass at 6 pm

St. Mary Church
 Fr. John Gow
 912 Walton Rd., Walton
 815-857-2670
 Mass: Saturday, 5:30 pm

St. Flannen Church
 Fr. John Gow
 213 S Second St., Harmon
 815-857-2670
 Mass: Sunday, 8:30 am

United First Church of Amboy
 Pastor Mark Glenn
 East Main & Jefferson
 815-440-0745
 Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m.
 Bible Study Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

First Congregational United Church of Christ of Lee Center
 Pastor Jack M. Briggs
 1140 Inlet Road, Lee Center
www.LeeCenter-UCC.org
 Phone 815-732-7032
 Family Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Grace Fellowship Church
 Amboy-Sublette
 Pastor Kyle Kelly
 500 W. Main Street, Sublette
 Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
 Worship 10:30 a.m.
www.graceisforyou.com

East Grove Union Church
 449 Reuter Road,
 Amboy, IL
 Phone 815-440-5321
 ½ Mile East of Route 26 at Union Rd
 Sun., 9:00 am, Morning Worship
 Youth Church, Ages 3 – Grade 4
 10:15 am Sunday School, Age 3 – Adult
 Come as you are and join us on the journey!

First Baptist Church
 Pastor Rocky Fritz
 24 N. Mason Avenue
 Church Phone 857-2682
www.fbcamboy.com
 Sunday School for all ages - 9:30 a.m.
 Morning Service - 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Service - 6 p.m.
 Wed. prayer meeting & Bible Study 6:30 p.m.
 King's Kids program from 6:30-8 p.m. Friday
 Reformers Unanimous additions program
 from 7-9 p.m.

St. Mary's Church – West Brooklyn
 Rev. Randy Fronck
 Mass - Tuesday & Thursday - 7:30 a.m.
 Saturday – 5:30 p.m.

St. Patrick Church - Maytown
 Rev. Randy Fronck
 Mass – Friday - 8 a.m.
 Sunday - 8 a.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church
 Interim Minister Douglas Wood S.A.M.
 960 U.S. Route 52
 Phone 857-2225
 960 U.S. Route 52
 Phone: 815-857-2225
 Sunday Worship - 9:00 a.m. -
 Fellowship - 10:00 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church
 Rev. Randy Fronck
 Locust Street, Sublette
 Phone 815-849-5412
 Saturday Mass - 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m.
 Wednesday - 8:00 a.m.
 Thursday - 8:30 a.m.

Refuge Church
 Pastor John Kalebaugh
 Mendota Hills Campground • 642 Rt. 52
 Amboy, IL 61310 • 815-849-5930
 10 a.m. Sunday, potluck follows

Harmon United Methodist Church
 Pastor Leanne Keate
 202 N. Grove, Harmon
 Phone 359-7302
 Worship - 8:30 a.m.

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SPORTS

IHSA implements shot clock for 2026-27 boys, girls basketball season

Amboy coaches share their thoughts on the new element of hoops strategy they'll have to include in their game plans

BLOOMINGTON – The Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Board of Directors met for its regularly scheduled meeting at the IHSA office in Bloomington on June 10, where the Board made decisions on two state final sites and approved the addition of the shot clock in the sport of basketball beginning in 2026-27, while also adjusting the state final schedule for America's Original March Madness.

Basketball

The IHSA Board of Directors approved two recommendations brought forth by the IHSA Basketball advisory committee.

A 35-second shot clock will be required for usage in varsity girls' and boys' basketball games beginning with the 2026-27 school year. Use of the shot clock for lower-level (freshman, sophomore, junior varsity) contests will be determined by conferences and via mutual agreement by competing teams in non-conference games.

"The IHSA has allowed the shot clock to be used in tournaments and shootouts the past two seasons, and the overwhelming feedback we have received from coaches is that it is time to embrace the shot clock in all varsity contests," said IHSA Executive Director Craig Anderson. "We believe the two-season lead time will provide our schools with ample opportunity to install the shot clocks and get comfortable with them from both a coaching and game administration perspective."

Amboy girls basketball coach Mike McCracken has mixed feelings about it.

McCracken, who has been coaching basketball for over 50 years sees plenty of pros and cons as high school basketball has ran smoothly without a shot clock, but the extra technology could help the game become even smoother.

"I like the thought of playing good defense that leads to a possible hurried shot or a shot clock violation," McCracken said. "But, I worry about the growing pains of all the schools and how good the people will do with it. We do have a good delay offense that will not be as useful."

Boys basketball coach Tyson Powers thinks it should have happened sooner.

"I think it's a good thing. I think it's a long time coming in high school basketball," Powers said. "I think we saw the writing on the wall when they changed the foul rule last year. Ultimately, I don't know if the pace of the game will change by any means, but it will certainly eliminate those games where a team might be at a significant disadvantage on the court against another team and they just hold the basketball. We're not going to see teams hold the ball for quarters anymore."

"It's high school basketball and I don't think there is a place for that type of stuff. I think this will be a good thing."

Additionally, the committee recommended a new state final time schedule that will ensure a two-day experience for all participating teams.

"It's been fairly unanimous in the Illinois high school basketball community that moving the state tournament to a single-weekend format has been a success," said Anderson. "Our coaches believe this new schedule will provide an even better experience for all the student-athletes, coaches, and fans. We look forward to seeing it play out when we celebrate America's Original March Madness next winter."

Bass Fishing

The IHSA Bass Fishing State Finals will be contested at Lake Shelbyville in Shelbyville beginning in 2025.

The host bid was prepared and supported by Shelbyville High School, the city of Shelbyville, Lake Shelbyville, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers who oversee Lake Shelbyville, and several local community chambers of commerce. The five-year hosting commitment will encompass the State Finals in 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, and 2029.

The IHSA became the first high school state association in the country to hold a high school bass fishing state championship when the inaugural IHSA State Finals were held in 2009 at Lake Carlyle.

Girls' Flag Football

Willowbrook High School in Villa Park will serve as the host of the inaugural IHSA Girls' Flag Football State Finals in the fall of 2024. The three-year hosting contract will debut on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 18-19, and then return to Willowbrook High School for the 2025 and 2026 state finals.

In February, the IHSA announced at Halas Hall in Lake Forest that Girls Flag Football would become the 32nd sport to contest an IHSA State Series.

Get up and Dance! exploring creative outlets for movement

DIXON – Looking for a fun, approachable way to incorporate movement into daily life? Get Up and Dance! Youth ages 8-14 will learn basic dance skills through games and activities that will help increase physical activity, promote a healthy lifestyle, and decrease potential injury. We'll get warmed up with balance, endurance, rhythm, stretching, and more activities before diving into

several dance styles, including ballet, lyrical, jazz, hip hop, and kick, all in an inviting environment.

Get Up and Dance! is part of Sauk Valley Community College's College for Kids. Sessions will be held July 15-18 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at Sauk Valley Community College, 173 IL-2, Dixon, IL 61021. To register visit go.illinois.edu/CommunityEdSVCC. Space is limited. The cost to partici-

pate is \$15. Questions regarding either session can be directed to Danielle Gapinski, 4-H Youth Development Educator, at 815-632-3611 or des85@illinois.edu.

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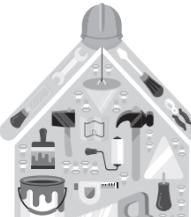
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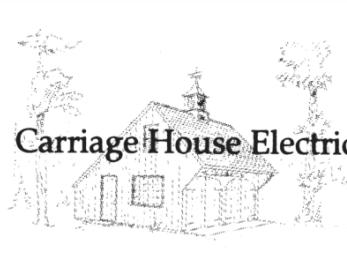
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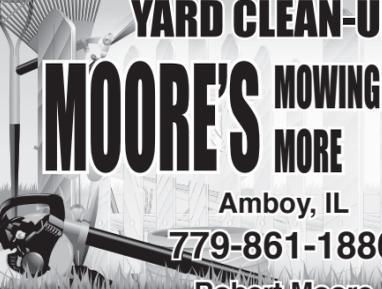
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Opinion

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances ~ The First Amendment

Why is a Real ID a real necessity?

For some odd reason, we (people, all people) like to make a thing or a big deal out of nothing. Or take a small, blip on the radar and make it a gigantic, colossal, world changing, everyone must know, throw it in your face happening.

Or we take an actual national or worldwide adventure or emergency and create sub issues we would be perfectly content if they didn't exist.

I could write an extremely long list of news events or cultural changing events that really didn't have to be, but between media, organizations, churches, businesses, and every other listable group or individual (all of us have been guilty at some point), it is pushed, thought into existence, and suffocated into life.

Here is another one... the Real ID. In 2001, the September 11 (9-11) terrorist attack occurred which will

rightfully go down as one of those events everyone remembers where they were at, how old they were, how it affected our country, how the tragedy bonded Americans from coast to coast, and how laws were put into place shortly after to protect us from a similar attack ever happening again.

Those should have happened. We were rightfully scared. It was a legit life changing moment,

a societal changing moment. For the most part. In 2005 (four years after the attack), the REAL ID Act was established as another post 9-11 security measure. A Real ID is a card that looks the exact same as a driver's license, except there is an additional star.

Without the card, an individual can't board a plane, enter certain federal facilities, or nuclear power plants. But without the card, since 9-11, since 2005, since forever, everyone with an "ordinary" state identification card, a driver's license, or a passport could enter federal facilities and nuclear power plants, and board a plane to any destination.

Besides a massive terrorist attack that could unfortunately still happen to this very day, or tomorrow, the world has gone on, moved forward, without

a star on a card. We legally have to wear seat belts as a passenger in a car. People still die in car accidents. I've seen a video where someone was almost decapitated because of wearing a seat belt. Motorcyclist in certain states, not Illinois, legally have to wear helmets. Riders still die in accidents.

In some instances, hopefully more than not, the safety precautions or amended laws are useful and do what they're supposed to do, but there isn't a 100 percent rate on any of them. Things still happen.

What is the big difference between a driver's license or a state ID and a Real ID. A star? The fact you have to use a birth certificate to obtain the Real ID?

I bet if someone wanted a fake Real ID they could create a fake birth certificate. The same way people have created fake driver's license and any other identification card or paperwork that has been illegally created before.

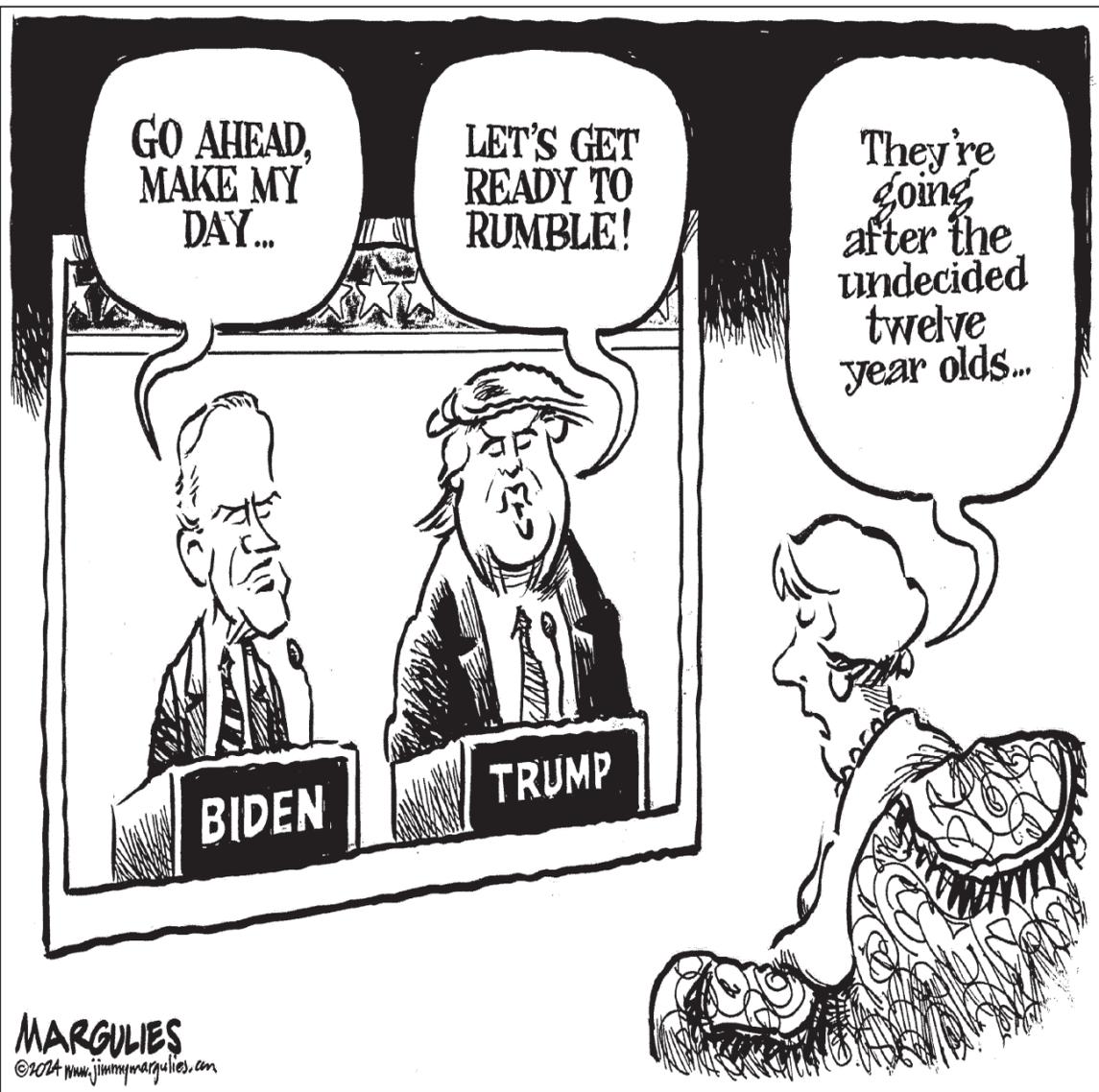
If a Real ID is so important, why was it created four years after the event it was created for? Why is the deadline for the Real ID to come into effect in 2025? I don't math the greatest, but that is 24 years after 9-11 and 20 years after the act was acted.

The answer is easy, it's not important.

It's just another made up, created out of angst or panic idea that we could do without. Instead of doing without, it's put into existence, and we're forced to move with the hoops of the Illinois Secretary of State's office, dig up paperwork and documents, take time out of our day or week, sit in lines at a DMV with office members who don't want to make the cards, spend money, and pretend having a Real ID is protecting our lives.

Column

By Brandon LaChance



ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

100 years ago June 20, 1924

People in this vicinity enjoyed an unusually good crop of home-grown strawberries. The fruit is large and of exceptionally fine flavor. Prospects are good for an abundant crop of blackberries, raspberries, cherries and other small fruits.

Real Values at Eichler Brothers – beautiful silk dresses \$14.75; leather bags \$3.50.

Since the announcement that there would be no celebration on July 4th this year in Amboy, some of the horsemen who are training at the Lee County Fair Grounds have arranged a program of racing to be given at the fair grounds on the afternoon of July 4.

75 years ago June 16, 1949

Mrs. Florence Turnquist announced the opening of the Turnquist Apparel Shop in the Antoine Building on S. Jones Ave. the new shop will carry ladies and children's wear, plus baby specialties.

A.D. Neis moved his Rexall Drug Store from the Elssessor Building to the newly remodeled building at the corner of Jones & Main Street, which Mr. Neis owns.

50 years ago June 20, 1974

David Kain, Mendota, was the winner of the One-on-One Championship in the senior division of the Amboy All-Star Basketball Camp. Jerry Dempsey of Amboy was Kain's final opponent. Gary Croegaert was the camp director.

Members of the Amboy Lions Club held a work night at Green River City Park and painted playground equipment. James Braida, Deane Emery, Cecil Harrison, Dale Brownlee, Junior Bonnell, and Geo. A. Larson were among the paint crew.

Robin Rod, 17, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rod, rural Sublette, was crowned Sublette's 1974 sixth Miss Flame in the Miss Flame contest held in the new fire station.

Purchase at Don's Super Valu: cucumbers or peppers 12 cents each; Cudahy Bar-S Wieners 59 cents a pack; Walnut Longhorn Cheese 79

cents for 10 oz. package; Wishbone Italian or French Dressing two 16 oz. bottles for \$1.09.

25 years ago June 17, 1999

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White announced 533 Illinois libraries will receive \$1,567,614 in "Bring In An Expert" grants. The mini-grant program will be used to provide professional expertise to school, public, academic and special libraries. Amboy's Pankhurst Memorial Library will receive a grant for \$1,600 to be used for staff development and another grant for \$3,550 for a building consultant.

Nearly 27,000 real estate tax bills have been mailed out to Lee County property owners, according to John F. Fritts, Lee County treasurer. Taxes paid from the bills will bring in over \$31 million to finance Lee County governmental agencies.

Amboy Mayor Henry "Hank" Gerdes said Amboy City Park is officially re-opened after being closed for more than a week due to between 50-60 trees being blown down or destroyed after a severe storm hit the Amboy area.

The Amboy News

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SOMETHING TO SAY?

The Amboy News encourages responsible letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered.

The limit is 300 words. Letters exceeding this will either be edited to fit or not published. The deadline for letters is noon on Friday.

Letter writers may only have two letters published per month, and the letters will be published on non-consecutive weeks. Letters are printed on a space-available basis.

All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include address and phone number or e-mail address for verification purposes. Neither the street address nor phone number will be printed. Letters should be typed or legibly handwritten, and no anonymous letters will be published.

Any comments of public officials should be limited to issues related strictly to their position or actions made in office, as personal attacks will not be published. Letters involving private disputes between the writer and a business or individual will not be published.

Political endorsements will be published, however letters from candidates endorsing themselves will not be printed.

Letters may be dropped at the Amboy News office, 703 Illinois Ave., Mendota, IL 61342, mailed to the Amboy News at PO Box 162, Amboy, IL 61310, or emailed to tgreenfield@amboynews.com

The Amboy News reserves the right to edit or reject any letter to the editor for any reason, and letters chosen for publication do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper, its management and or ownership.

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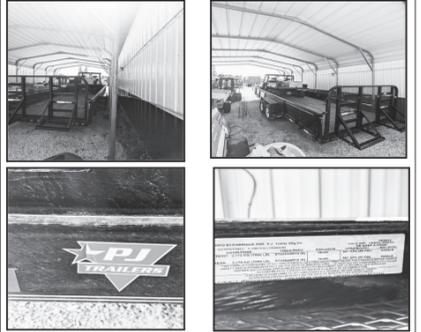
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All Bids be placed by 5 pm on July 3, 2024 at the Amboy Fire Department. Ensure you include your name, good phone number, and the amount you are bidding.
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• 1,450 lb. G.V.W.R.
No. 0604
(June 12, 19 and 26, 2024)



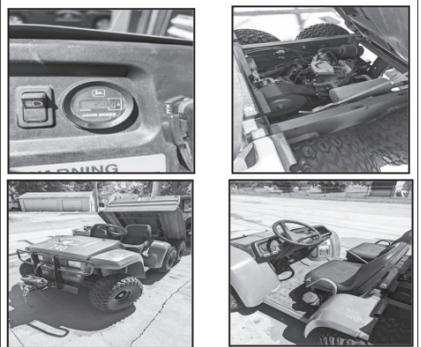
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• 22" Solid sides w/2" pipe railing
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(June 12, 19 and 26, 2024)



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All Bids be placed by 5 pm on July 3, 2024 at the Amboy Fire Department. Ensure you include your name, good phone number, and the amount you are bidding.
2023 John Deer Gator 6x4
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(June 12, 19 and 26, 2024)



SEALED BID AUCTION

Amboy Fire Department Sealed Bid Auction!
All Bids be placed by 5 pm on July 3, 2024 at the Amboy Fire Department. Ensure you include your name, good phone number, and the amount you are bidding.
1997 BAE Systems LMTV M1078
1852 Miles
No. 0608
(June 12, 19 and 26, 2024)



SEALED BID AUCTION

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All Bids be placed by 5 pm on July 3, 2024 at the Amboy Fire Department. Ensure you include your name, good phone number, and the amount you are bidding.
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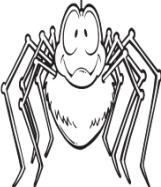


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National Institute on Retirement Security, 2016.



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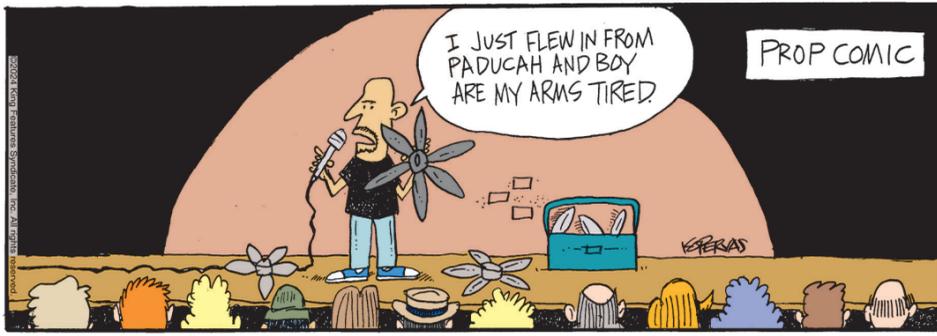
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



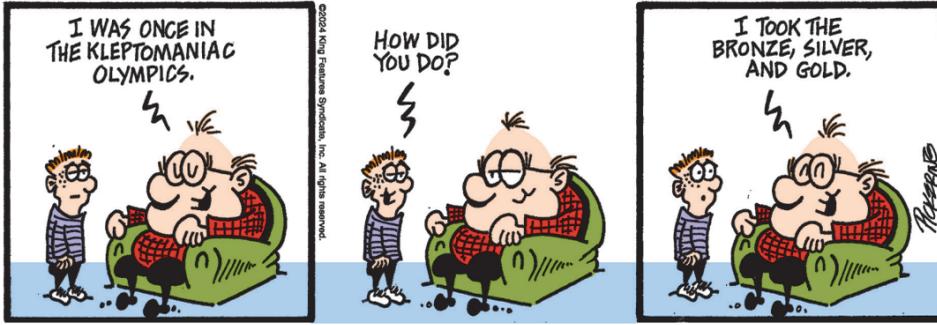
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



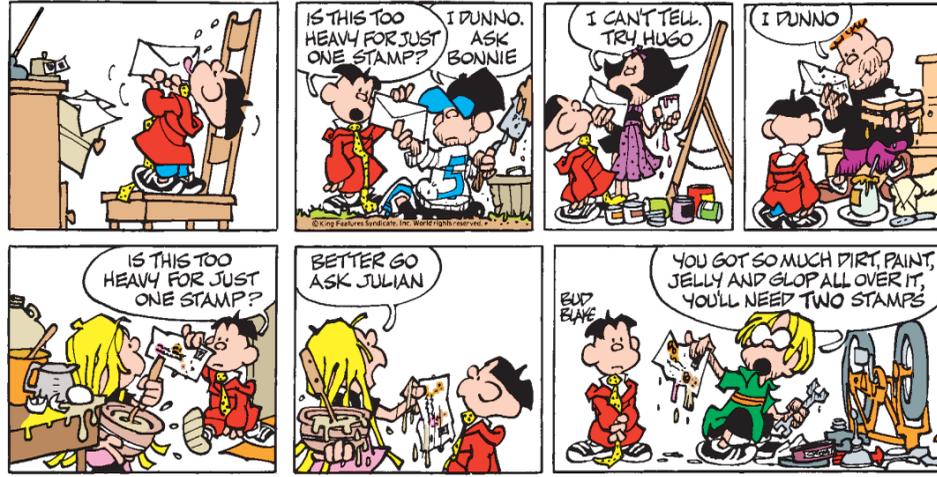
The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



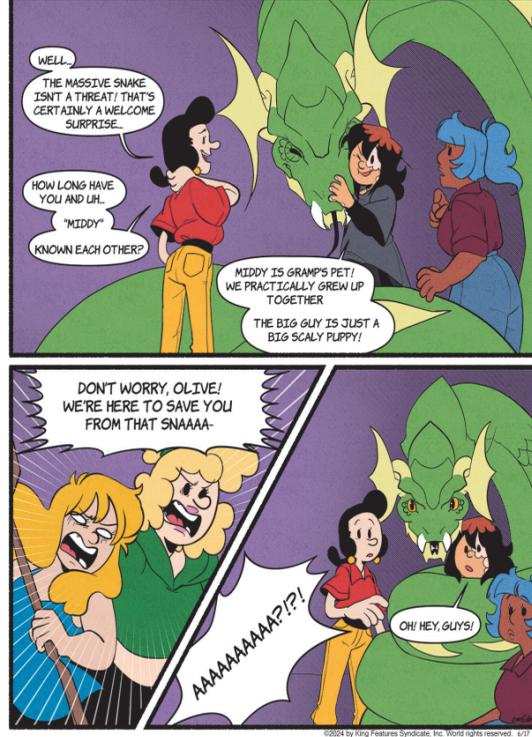
TIGER

by BUD BLAKE



OLIVE

By Emi Burdge



HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: E equals W

ETSI EZLQN KZL YSQQ SYIXHUU
 IZRQPW PJ THX TZRH EHXH
 ZW S WSXXXZE UPNH XZSN?
 QPQK ZJ ITH SQQHK.

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- Design: SLYTE
- Doze: RUMBLES
- Stage: SHAPE
- Refuse: SWEAT

TODAY'S WORD

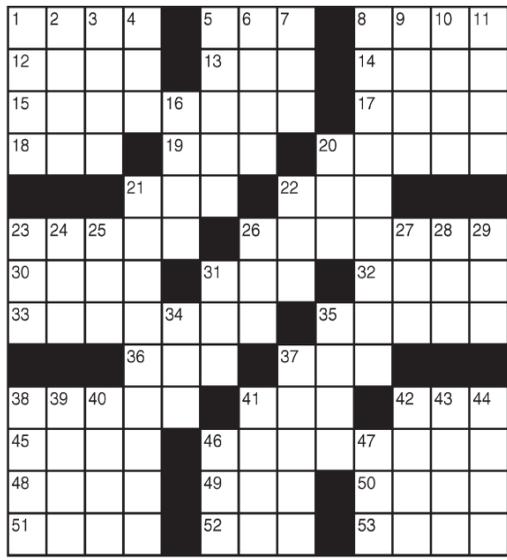
I'm writing another check for the _____ salon— when are they going to finish the job?"

June 17, 2024 Posting Date

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 — of Sandwich
- 5 Saigon soup
- 8 URL opener
- 12 Coagulate
- 13 Charged bit
- 14 Pitcher Hersher
- 15 Romantic appointments
- 17 Skater Lipinski
- 18 Like aspirin, briefly
- 19 Ozone, for one
- 20 Governing gp.
- 21 That chap's
- 22 — -Magnon
- 23 "Evita" sur-name
- 26 Gym gear
- 30 "— Rhythm"
- 31 Chum
- 32 Cowgirl's footwear
- 33 Spider's traps
- 35 Baby collie
- 36 Owns
- 37 Prohibit
- 38 Sound of Washington
- 41 Flushed
- 42 Aunt, in Acapulco
- 45 Skin soother
- 46 Donna Summer hit song
- 48 Sagan or Sandburg



- 49 Ambulance VIP
- 50 Luminary
- 51 Singles
- 52 Horse chow
- 53 Prefix with pilot
- 8 Frank holder
- 9 Streetcar
- 10 Actress
- 11 Hatcher
- 11 Scheme
- 16 Opposite of "fer"
- 20 Onassis nick-name
- 21 Toy car brand
- 22 Cartoon frame
- 23 Photo, for short
- 24 Conceit
- 25 Steal from
- 26 Existed
- 27 Jump
- 28 Pinnacle
- 29 Hog haven
- 31 "Nova" ailer
- 34 Nosh
- 35 Cushions
- 37 White of "The Golden Girls"
- 38 Designer Rabanne
- 39 — Bator
- 40 Slasher film fare
- 41 Capital of Italy
- 42 Ballet attire
- 43 "— first you ..."
- 44 Roundish do
- 46 Devilish laugh
- 47 Airport screening org.

DOWN

- 1 Canyon sound
- 2 Oodles
- 3 Campus mil. group
- 4 Old Ford model
- 5 Pocket breads
- 6 Works the soil
- 7 Carry — (travel bags)

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle



Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

WORD LADDERS

Can you go from PALES to RAGED in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

PALES

RAGED

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: Which country's native name is Cymru?
2. HISTORY: Which country is the first to recognize same-sex marriage?
3. MOVIES: Who voices the character of Frozone in the animated movie "The Incredibles"?
4. FOOD & DRINK: What is the primary ingredient in baba ganoush?
5. LITERATURE: The movie "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" is based on a short story written by which American author?
6. MEASUREMENTS: How many grams are in a pound?
7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What cultural phenomenon is celebrated on May 4?
8. TELEVISION: Rhoda Morgenstern is a sidekick in which 1970s TV sitcom?
9. SCIENCE: What is the process called when iron is coated with zinc?
10. U.S. STATES: What is the only vowel that is NOT the first letter of a state?

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- Answers:
1. Wales.
 2. The Netherlands.
 3. Samuel L. Jackson.
 4. Eggplant.
 5. F. Scott Fitzgerald.
 6. 454 grams.
 7. "Star Wars" movies.
 8. "The Mary Tyler Moore Show."
 9. Galvanization.
 10. E.

SCRAMBLERS

BEAUTY
 Today's Word
 3. Phase; 4. Waste
 1. Style; 2. Slumber
 solution

CAVES, PAVES, RAGED

Answer

WORD LADDER



Answer

Weekly SUDOKU



Solution time: 23 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

CryptoQuip
 Answer
 What would you call actress Tomlin if her home were on a narrow side road?
 Lily of the alley.

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HOME IMPROVEMENT

How DIY can be bad for homeowners' bottom lines

Homeowners know it can be tempting to go the do-it-yourself (DIY) route when starting a home improvement project. Home repairs and renovations can be costly, and the notion of saving money on such projects compels many homeowners to try their hand at home improvements. However, the DIY approach can be costly as well, and if things go awry, homeowners may end up with empty pockets and unfinished projects.

Online tutorials and advertisements for home improvement retailers can make DIY seem like a snap. However, there are potential pitfalls to consider that could make the ostensibly less expensive DIY route far more detrimental to the bottom line than homeowners may recognize.

• **Permits:** Permits ensure work is done in accordance with local codes, which are designed to ensure the safety of residents and their neighbors. Licensed contractors know which permits are necessary for projects they're hired to work on, and many even procure permits for their clients (homeowners are urged to read estimates and contracts to determine who will be responsible for acquiring the appropriate permits). DIYers may not know about local permits, and therefore go ahead with projects without procuring



any. That can be harmful in the short- and long-term. In the short-term, a failure to procure the appropriate permits can make a home less safe and potentially lead to costly fines and necessitate a complete do-over of the project. In the long-term, homeowners who did not secure the appropriate permits may not be given a certificate of occupancy (CO) when putting their homes on the market,

which can make it very difficult to sell the home.

• **Ancillary costs:** The ancillary costs of DIY are not often noted in online tutorials. However, such costs can dramatically increase the amount of money DIYers shell out in order to complete projects on their own. Ancillary costs include but are not limited to the price of tools and equipment; disposal fees for

materials that will need to be discarded; and the cost of permits. These costs are often included in estimates provided by contractors, but they're easily overlooked by novice DIYers.

• **Repairs:** Even experienced contractors make mistakes, so DIYers, particularly novices, can anticipate making a few errors along the way. Minor mistakes may not prove too costly, but more significant mishaps can quickly negate any cost savings associated with DIY renovations. The cost to fix DIY mistakes varies depending on the project, but a 2019 survey from Porch.com found that the average DIY mistake cost homeowners \$310 and added five and a half hours to the overall time spent to complete a project. It's worth noting the Porch.com survey was conducted prior to the dramatic increase in materials costs related to inflation in recent years. So it's reasonable to assume that fixing DIY mistakes in 2024 could end up costing considerably more than a few hundred dollars.

Before diving in to DIY, homeowners may want to consider the real costs associated with forgoing professional experience in the potentially misplaced hopes of saving a few dollars.

7 reasons to upgrade to electric, induction cooking appliances

Cooking with gas? Industry experts say there are many reasons to consider retiring your gas-powered appliances.

To help you understand what your kitchen may be missing, Melissa Haber, the vice president of EuroChef USA, offers seven reasons why your next home upgrade should include

making the swap to electric or induction cooking.

1. You're health- and eco-conscious. Gas appliances at home are associated with an in-

creased risk of asthma and other illnesses, particularly in children, as they emit harmful air pollutants like nitrogen dioxide and methane, even when they're not in use. The same pollutants are also harmful to the environment, contributing to air quality issues and climate change. In fact, national annual emissions from gas cooktops are equivalent to the emissions transmitted from half a million cars.

2. They're easy to maintain. Compared to the metal grates of a conventional gas stove, the flat surface of an electric or induction cooktop is nearly effortless to clean. A damp dish rag and soap works for most cleanup sessions. For more involved messes, a little vinegar goes a long way.

3. They offer safety benefits. With no open flame, electric appliances lower the risk of burns or fires, particularly those with safety features such as



“power on” lights and residual heat warnings that inform users when the surface is still hot. Induction cooking also has safety benefits, since only the cooking vessel is directly heated and the surface of the cooktop itself does not retain or give off heat.

4. You value precision. Induction cooking is faster and more efficient than cooking with gas. High-end induction ranges combine elegant design with modern cooking features, are a good example of how accurate temperature control allows you to prepare meals like a professional in the comfort of home.

5. Making changes can be feasible. Installing a gas hookup can be costly, time-consuming and involve inspections. The installation process for electric appliances on the other hand is easier and less expensive. Not able to replace your gas appliances with electric? Investing in a range hood is a sensible solution that can cut your appliance's air pollution by about half.

6. You'll be ahead of the curve. A growing

number of cities and municipalities are banning new gas hookups for appliances to reduce air pollution and help fight climate change. Making the switch to electric or induction can help you get ahead of the regulatory curve.

7. New options are being introduced. With sales of electric appliances on the rise, a few select manufacturers have taken note, and to meet customer demand, have recently introduced additional options offering style and sought-after features.

“As more consumers have come to realize the value and advantages of electric and induction cooking, it became important to offer them the same versatility and style they might expect with traditional gas-powered cooking appliances,” says Haber.

Whether you want to prioritize your family's health and safety, or you simply want to embrace the convenience of modern cooking technology, electric and induction appliances can be a game changer in your kitchen.

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